

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

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RETAIN OR DESTROY

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(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO: 11/11/78

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. President Ospina Perez has ignored the Liberal Party threat to withdraw from the national union and resign from all political posts in Colombia unless electoral processes are guaranteed. This has resulted in an extremely tense political situation. Liberals in the cabinet have been replaced with Army officers and Conservatives, including Col. Regulo Gaitan, Chief of National Police, now Minister of Government; General Sanchez Amaya, Director of Army, now Minister of War; and General San Juan, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, now Minister of Justice.
2. The Liberal directorate is reported to be undecided as to the retaliatory action it will take. The police and Army, alerted with tanks and artillery concentrated in the presidential guard, are prepared for any disorder. Unconfirmed rumors of uprisings throughout Colombia have precipitated the closing of some schools in Bogota, although the presidential palace has received no word of any actual disturbance.
3. Liberal leaders reportedly contacted labor groups requesting their support in the form of a general strike should the ultimatum not be answered satisfactorily.

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

☐ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS

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BY CABLE

CLASSIFICATION: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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